The Snake Charmers.

A few days after my arrival in Tunis charmers which we read so much about but so seldom, if ever, see. He triot, says: was a large black Ethiopian, of a forling appearance, bareheaded, burly is and tody scarcely concealed by suth, and they generally represent a dirty burnouse. He had with him him as being in a state of penury, if a rode tambourine, or drumhead, cov. not distress. One of the regulation ered with the raw head of some wild announcements is just going the animal, and a black leather bag, the rounds.' It alleges that the ex-dicta my sterious contents of which were tor is 84 years of age, and is compelled soon to be revealed to me. Seeing to teach languages for his living. Kos that I was watching him with some suth is 84, but he is not, I am glad to correstly, he at once squatted down upon the ground and commenced the ardness task of teaching to mainperations. Untying the bag, he tain himself. He works as hard as he visibed out a dozen or more venemous soking snakes of different species, voluntarily, and to gratify a noble measuring from three to six and seven sense of independence. When he left and in length, which he threw down | England-now over five and twenty in the middle of the street, where years ago-he went to reside near they lay for a moment in a torpid Turin. His old friend and brother exstate as if benumbed with cold Throw- ile, Colonel Thasz, accompanied him, ing the bag at a distance, the Ethio and they kept house together till the pan caught his tambourine, and jump- Colonel died a few years ago. Koslone credit to a North American

ougues in an angry manner. Sevferent directions as if to escape, but music and dancing, would keep them in the circle by pushing them with is naked feet. Seating himself once mer on the ground, in the midst of the crawling reptiles, he caught them in his lap and commenced playing with them as a child would with so many kittens: let them crawl over him, up his back and over his shoulders. They would twine themselves around his legs and arms, and crane their ngly looking heads around into his face as if to scan his features. Standing erect once more with a quick movement, he shook the snakes to the ground, and catching up two of the argust, made a turban of them around his head, tied two or three of the smaller ones around his neck for a emetat, and two savage looking fellows were wound around his body for a belt. Having proceeded thus far in the adorning of his person, he finished his decorations by suspending a five or six foot "ornament" from each side of his head by fastening its fangs into the lobes of his ears, and, in a like manner suspended one from his nose and one from his protruding tongue.

The sight of the serpent charmer, like the mythological Medusa that guarded the gates of Hesperides, was now not only disgusting, but terrible He was almost ento look upon. tirely enveloped with the squirming reptiles, whose angry heads, with glistening eyes and forked tongues, were standing out from his body in all di-Eurowing a piece of Tunis soin at the serpent charmer's feet I was about to turn away from the and although Deak's compromise did sickening spectacle when the man motioned me with his hand, as much as to say, "Wait a moment." Unfastening the snakes, which were still clinging to his mose and tongue, he tossed one upon the ground, and the head of the other be inserted into his buge wide open mouth, as if he was in the act of swallowing it whole. This was more than my already trembling nerves could stand, and I beat a hasty retreat, fully satisfied with what I had seen of stake charming -Bostos Herald

A Black Snake's Devotion-

When I was living down to Punta Rassa [said a native] I had a black snake that was treated just as if he was one of the family. It had grown up with us, you might say, for my boys had caught it when it was only about a foot long and it got to be sover four feet. When the children went out into the yard for a frolic or off hunting or fishing they always took Ben which was the name of the snake along. He was very useful in every way too. Some days the boys would go out after berries or wild grapes and take a bushel basket with em. Ben would coil up in the busket and go too. Well, if they the basket, which they generally it made a pretty hefty load for two to carry; so they'd just show the state what was wanted and he'd fisten his hend on the side the basket and his tail on the t'other, making unother handle, so to speak, and, well four of my boys would carry the load home without sweating any one of 'em too much. If it was brier-berries they had. Ben would help stem and pick out the briers and sticks and dirt from em. In that kind of work he was as handy as ten-year old

When the boys went fishing Ben would lay down in the boat and go fast asleep, but when they got through and pulled for shore he'd wake up, yawn a little and then stretch out straight, for he knew his place in the procession was waiting for him. The boys always used him to string their fish on, and then one would take him by the head and the other by the tail and they had as nice a fish cart as you'd wish to see.

Sleeping cars with bath-rooms are the latest. The Bulkesy News says some of these have been placed on the Canadian Pacific Railway, and tired and dusty travellers who cross the Continent will be able to take a thorough wash at any time during the journey. These cars also have buffets. smoking rooms, and all the other Intest sleeping car improvements which tend to make long-distance comfortable and enjoyable The Canadian Pacific owns and operates its own "eleepers," and they are built and furnished in a manner almost regardless of expense.

Kossuth.

The London correspondent of the there came to the street in front of Newcastle Duly Chronick, referring to my hotel one of those famous serpent | certain reports as to the alleged pov erty of Kossuth, the Hungarian pa-

Periodically, paragraphs appear in the English newspapers about Kos say, so impecunious as to be driven to ever did, it is true; but he does so

ug to his feet, commenced dancing a suth then removed to near Florence, circle around the reptiles, at the same and has recently lived for a time in time beating his rude instrument and singing a wild song that would have and daughter are dead, but his two sons are living, and both hold positions of trust and responsibility in The snakes began at once to show Italy. One is the manager of a large igns of life by pricking up their mining company, and the other an engineer on a railway. Either of them is able and both are desirous of keep eral commenced gliding away in dif- ing their honored father in ease and competency. But the brave old man the negro, who still kept up his wild will be beholden to no one, and he works away as vigorously as he did when he was in the prime of manhood. He has written his 'memoirs' and sold the M.S. to a Hungarian publisher. The price got for it keeps him in all the comfort he either wants or cares for. But if he could not thus labor, his sons would see him want for nothing. An old English friend of Kossouth's gave Mr. Michael Davitt a letter of introduction to him a few months ago. Mr. Davitt found him hale and hearty—as much interested in current politics as he ever was, and desirous of learning all about Ireland from one who was so well able to inform him. Curiously enough, the day

after Mr. Davitt saw him, Kossuth had another very different visitor-Prince Jerome Bonaparte-with whom exile and misfortune once made him very different men was like a gleam of light from other days, and recalled exciting scenes in which the Hunga rian patriot played a leading part. Prince Jerome was the intermediary between Kossuth and his cousin, Louis Napoleon, when France made war on Austria. Before doing this, Napoleon entered into an alliance with the Hungarian leader for a sympathetic rising in that country. Louis Napoleon broke the compact, however, and concluded an unexpected peace after the battle of Solferino. Kossuth's hopes of Hungarian freedom were thereby doomed once more to be disappointed. ned success, however, came after the German and Austrian war, not, or does not, satisfy Kossuth, it is

dom to improve."

J. D. LANE'S

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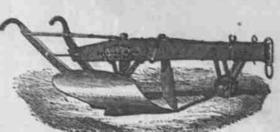
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